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H. T. WEBSTER, M. D., EDITOR.

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The Board of Examiners of the Eclectic Medical Society of California will meet throughout the year regularly at 4 o'clock P. M., on the second Thursday of each month, at the office of Geo. G. Gere, M. D., Secretary, 120 Post Street, San Francisco.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

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Physicians in active practice are always in need of something to supply a new demand in the shape of remedies and appliances, and will, perhaps, find, by reading our advertising pages, a guide to just what they need. Some of these advertisements are being changed every month. Keep your eye on them.

REFINED PETROLEUM AS A RUBEFACIENT.

BY JOHN FEARN, M. D., OAKLAND, CAL.

THE word petroleum is from the Latin, *petra*, a "rock," and *oleum*, "oil," literally rock oil. It is a variable mixture of hydrocarbons, with a strong odor, very inflammable; when refined for use in our lamps it is called "kerosene." As a medicinal agent it is reputed to be a stimulating antispasmodic, expectorant, vermifuge, and diaphoretic. At this time I wish to speak of its topical use only.

My first use of this remedy was about twelve years ago, when practicing in Ohio, when the cold was severe and the snow lay deep on the ground. I was called to see an infant, perhaps about eight months old; found the child had taken severe cold some days before. Home remedies had been tried, but without success. Finally the doctor was called; examination showed fever, constriction in chest and throat, dyspnoea, spasms of coughing, cyanotic condition of lips and mucous membrane,

showing that oxygenation was very seriously interfered with; in the intervals of cough a comatose condition. Diagnosis—Spasmodic croup. Prognosis—Under all the circumstances, I came to the conclusion that there was no help for the child, and I told them it would die. They were anxious that I should do something, and so for present relief I prescribed a sedative, and as a local application, I had a piece of flannel wrung out of very hot water; the flannel was then spread out and sprinkled with kerosene, it was then folded about four thicknesses, and spread quick as possible over the whole chest and throat, a piece of dry flannel covering the whole. Before medicine per mouth could act, the relief from this medicated pack was very marked; breathing became less labored and deeper; the cough became easier, and soon ceased. The child made a speedy recovery, and I have always given a large share of the credit in this case to the hot pack medicated with kerosene.

In the case just mentioned its benefits were apparent more as a relaxant than as a rubefacient. But it is as a rubefacient that I wish to speak of it more particularly. In acute tonsillitis where there is great swelling, redness, and threatened suppuration, there is so much engorgement that it is with the greatest difficulty the patient can swallow at all. In this case I have the throat externally rubbed with the coal oil right over the seat of difficulty, just dipping the finger in the liquid and rubbing it on, being careful not to spread it too much; over this place the flannel pack wrung out of hot water, then all covered with a dry flannel. In bad cases the oil may be applied twice in twenty-four hours, but the pack should be wet every three hours. The relief is very marked; the surface will usually, when treated like this, be well reddened in about twelve hours. Some will not bear more than one application in several days. Soon as the skin is reddened, the engorgement and internal congestion will be relieved; the parts will be relaxed, and in nine cases out of ten suppuration will be prevented.

In this way I have for years used this remedy in acute sore throat, hypertrophy of the tonsils with inflammation, chronic sore throat, and even in diphtheria, with very great benefit to my

patients. Of course, in using it in diphtheria, we are careful not to push it beyond well reddening the surface; in this case we do not wish to take off the skin, or raise a blister, and this can be very easily done. In using this remedy as a local application, some make the mistake of wetting flannel with the oil, applying this to the surface, and then covering with the pack. This course frequently induces a very high state of inflammation, at times blistering a considerable surface. The question may be asked if I recommend this local treatment to the exclusion of internal remedies. Most certainly not. If the special sedatives, if any of the antizymotics or antiseptics, are needed (and assuredly some of them will be), why, use them, but give this remedy a trial.

If I were called upon to give the specific indications for the use of this remedy as a topical agent, I would say, Use it externally to the throat, where internally there is great redness, burning, swelling, constriction, danger of suppuration, in a word, where there is great vascular congestion; where, through determination of blood to the part, the life of the part is threatened. By acting as a rubefacient and relaxant, it will relieve internal congestion, by calling the determining powers to the surface.

Bearing these therapeutic indications in mind, we can see how that active congestion of ovaries, stomach, liver, kidneys, spleen, and bowels may be benefited and relieved by hot packs medicated by this remedy. In this connection let me say, some patients are much more sensible to the action of this drug than others. I have seen one application to the throat of a young man of intense scrofulous diathesis, take the skin completely away, leaving a large raw surface, in twelve hours. In another case, a child six years old had a bad case of scarlet fever, followed by a large parotid abscess. I applied kerosene freely to this abscess every four hours; there was not a pimple, but the abscess ripened quickly and well. The child made a good recovery, and to-day you must scrutinize very closely to find the sign of a cicatrix.

In conclusion, some who have not tried it are ready to object to this remedy on account of its odor. With the best kerosene to-day, used as I have indicated, there is very little odor; in fact

it is a posy compared with the onion poultice still used by some physicians. As a lubricant and relaxant, in some cases of ankylosis, we may speak of this remedy on another occasion.

RHEUMATISM.

BY J. C. ANDREWS, M. D.

MUCH has been said and written about the cause, pathology, and treatment of this painful disease. But for a more exhaustive treatise concerning it, the reader is referred to the more recent works on practical medicine, as my object is simply to present the treatment I have pursued, which, though not wholly original, has served my purpose well; also to verify the truth of "specific medication," as taught by Professor Scudder. When called to a case of rheumatism, I endeavor to diagnose it according to specific diagnosis, and adapt to each and every case its treatment, specifically, as indicated. And if the physician thus studies well his cases, he need not have the usual six weeks' case of rheumatism on hand, but he must thoroughly have in hand his specific materia medica, and know how to apply it; no guess-work will do here.

In surveying the case before you, at first glance you take in the surroundings, the general appearance of the patient, his look, position, whether or not he tries to be quiet, or is uneasy, endeavoring to make himself comfortable, his face flushed, eyes bright, pupils contracted, nervous, restless, or has the opposite condition prevailed—face pale, eyes immobile, pupils dilated, stupid, inclined to sleep, whether he is more comfortable when quiet, or does the opposite condition obtain. You examine the pulse, and ascertain if it is full and bounding, or is hard and sharp, or is vibratile; you examine the tongue. Is it elongated, red at tip and edges, papillæ erect and prominent, with a dry, brown coat; and in connection with these symptoms, see if there is not increased pain and tenderness over and around the left eye, penetrating the orbit, or extending to the back part of the head; or is it large and flabby, with a dirty, nasty, tenacious coat; bad

taste in the mouth, with weight and oppression in the stomach—as all these conditions of the system named, indicate the remedy, or remedies, singly or combined, required to treat this often complex disease. Having diagnosed your case, you are frequently asked, “Doctor, can you get me out of this?” You answer, “Oh, yes,” but are not so certain about it.

A few cases will best serve my purpose to illustrate my course of treatment in rheumatic troubles:—

Some two years since, I was invited to assume charge of a young man, aged about twenty years, who was suffering from a severe attack of rheumatism. On examination found him helpless, could not rest in any position, felt best when in continual motion, wrist and ankle on one side swollen and painful, very little fever, pulse hard and sharp; tongue elongated, papillæ erect, red and prominent, coated slightly brown, inclined to dryness; temperature slightly increased; bowels constipated; whole system seemed to be toned up to the highest point. Prescribed—

R Tinct. aconite, gtts. viij.
 Rhus tox “ vj.
 Aqua pura, 3vj.

M. Sig.—One teaspoonful every hour. Also—

R Salicylic acid, 3ij.
 Borate so la, 3j.
 Aqua pura, 3vj.

M. Sig.—One teaspoonful every two hours, with the parts well enveloped in flannel.

Continued this treatment for two days; the patient began to improve, when the opposite limbs began to swell. This treatment was pursued for four days, when all pain was gone, but the swelling remained for several days; appetite returned, rested well at night, and in ten days was able to be out.

Another case, that of a little girl aged eight years, subject to rheumatic attacks, last fall, when the rains set in, was attacked with articular rheumatism of the joints of limbs. She did not seem to suffer, except when an effort was made to move, when she would scream out with the most excruciating pain;

could sleep in a semi-erect position. The hands would swell, then the foot and limbs on one side, then the opposite; pulse was full and bounding, heart tumultuous, tongue moist and slightly coated; no appetite, considerable fever. Prescribed—

R Tinct. veratrum vir., gtts. x.
 " cactus grand, ʒj.
 " bryonia, gtts. x.
 Aqua pura, ʒiv.

M. Sig.—One teaspoonful every hour. Also R salicylic acid in capsules of three grains each, every three hours.

Commenced to improve the second day, and in four or five days was practically free from pain, though the swelling continued for a week or more. She received no further treatment; when last heard from was well. The parts involved were enveloped in flannel.

A third case, a man subject to attacks of rheumatism every winter for twelve years, came to me this winter with a severe synovitis of the left knee joint; scarcely any fever, pulse and temperature normal, no appetite, could not rest from spasmodic jerkings of the muscles of the leg; had to administer an anodyne to secure rest. Prescribed—

R Tinct. aconite, gtts. v.
 " bryonia, gtts. x.
 " macrotys rac., gtts. xxx.
 Aqua pura, ʒiv.

M. Sig.—One teaspoonful every hour, with salicylic acid in three-grain capsules, every three hours.

In a week was able to travel comfortably, and said he recovered from this attack much sooner than any one previous.

A prominent attorney-at-law accosted me on the street, saying he was suffering from a severe pain, with tenderness on the left side of the head, extending to the occiput, as well as deep in the orbit, asking if I could do anything for him. I said, Let me see your tongue, which presented an elongated appearance, pointed, red at tip and edges, papillæ prominent and erect, pulse hard and sharp. Prescribed—

R Tinct. aconite, gtts. iv.
 " rhus tox., gtts. iv.
 Aqua pura, ℥ij.

M. Sig.—One teaspoonful every two hours.

Met him in a day or two, asked him how his head was; he replied, "I only took three or four doses of the medicine, and have felt no pain since."

Mrs. M., aged sixty years, worn out in attending her two boys through an attack of measles, together with the cares incident to charge of a large hotel business, was attacked with articular rheumatism of the left limb and side, completely prostrating her; unable to move herself. Being summoned to attend her, found very little fever, no appetite, tongue inclined to brown, and dry; craving acids. Prescribed—

R Tinct. aconite, gtts. v.
 " bryonia, " x.
 " macrotys, " xx.
 Aqua dest., ℥iv.

M. Sig.—One teaspoonful every hour, with—

R Mur. acid dil., ℥ss.
 Simple Syrup, ℥iss.

M. Sig.—One teaspoonful every two hours, in a little sweetened water.

This treatment was pursued for two or three days, when signs of improvement became apparent; an anodyne was occasionally administered to obtain rest, and at the end of ten or twelve days she had so far improved that I deemed it unnecessary to further visit her, as she could help herself every way; appetite good, ate a good beefsteak for supper; general appearance denoted a speedy return to health, but the constant care and worry of her business so weighed on her mind, together with refractory servants, and fearful creditors, and a despondent disposition, the next morning was attacked with a severe pain in the right lung, paroxysmally, until afternoon, when I was summoned, hastily, to see her. I found her in a state of collapse, and in about an hour after I saw her death closed the scene. Whether the cause of death was from a metastasis of the disease to the lungs and

heart, I am unable to say, but think it was, as there was failure of capillary circulation, and great struggling for breath, and anxiety of mind, and fear of impending danger.

In presenting to your readers these cases and their treatment, I do not offer anything that is new, nor do I pretend to say which of the various remedies did the most good. But to show to those who may not have the success they desire in the treatment of this affection, the benefits to be derived from a thorough and patient study of the remedies used in this disease. If any are thus stimulated to further research, and thus become enabled to successfully combat this painful trouble and relieve suffering, I shall be fully recompensed.

LETTER FROM LOS ALAMOS.

PROF. H. T. WEBSTER—*Dear Sir:* Since leaving the halls of medical science, with their many cherished associations and recollections, we have been enjoying nature as we find it spread out before us in this beautiful land of flowers, at the present time covered with waving grass and grain—hills dotted with herds of cattle, horses, etc. Insect life is in full blast—very interesting to us, but happily not Eastern flies, mosquitoes, etc., but the domesticated honey-bee. Myriads of these industrious servants make the air resound, through the vibrations of their wings, sounding like an Eastern tornado. We have individually passed from hive to hive, strengthening the weaker colonies, supplying others with fresh comb, through our apiary of three hundred hives. Once in a while an indignant worker, or warrior, would pay his respects by thrusting his fiery dart into an unprotected portion of our individual anatomy. Professor Webster called it “apis.” We think if he had as practical a demonstration of its efficiency as we have had, he would turn homeopathist before he prescribes it again.

Trees are loaded with fruit. In a few months we will have a land literally flowing with milk and honey, and fruit. Send down your city dyspeptic, sallow, wan, and cross, and we will agree to return him sweet, fat, and as black or brown as an

Indian. We do not sport much style, but such an appetite—a pot of beans, fried quail, rabbit, and an occasional “wild goat” (it being unlawful to say deer), with vegetables, honey, etc. We have got away with more “grub” within a week than we could have managed in Oakland in a month, while listening to and trying to digest those attractive, captivating medical lectures—“R. O. A.—L. O.—L to R,” indications of the fellow with “broad, flabby tongue;” “Dual Properties of Drugs;” “Origin and Attachment;” “Irritation, Inflammation, and Congestion;” “Errors of Refraction;” “Reactions and Arbitrary Formulas;” “Digestion and Distribution of a Twenty-five-cent Meal,” and the most important, how to cheat the hangman, “Murdered Legally;” “Ordinary Care and Ordinary Skill.” I guess some of our skill will be *most* ordinary.

We found, employed on the rancho, a *genius*, “medicine man,” Apache Indian, Greaser, and Irishman. He never tires pointing out this and that plant, “much good rumatic fever, belly-ache, diarrhea, cancer,” etc. He keeps me tasting, sampling: “much burn, pucker, sweat,” etc. If we do not furnish Professor Fearn with new material “further on,” we shall be much surprised. Our collections run into the dozens already.

Well, Mr. Editor, you will not find much medication in the above. We respectfully leave that for Harvey, Oliver, Turner, Patterson, Potts, and Vandre. If we can stimulate them to write for the JOURNAL, we shall conclude our object has not been in vain. Should the people through our short-comings perish, may we be more fortunate and survive, that we may have time and opportunity to repent. Great are the responsibilities of a graduate from the California Medical College. Although attending strictly to business, we are watched as a “possible intruder,” with fear and trembling, by the “Regulars.” Last week a neighbor’s wife was confined; detained thirty-six hours; left with the exclamation, “God bless you, Doctor; had it not been for your skill and perseverance, I *know* I should have died.” Had plenty of time to exemplify Professor Maclean’s teachings; they worked fine. The Professor’s head is level. Enough for once.

Truly yours, on the wing,

CLASS OF '87.

Los Alamos, Cal., May 7, 1887.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

BOSTON, MASS., May 12, 1887.

DEAR JOURNAL: As per promise I relate my experience up to date. I left the point at the periphery, called San Francisco, and in six and one-half days' continuous travel arrived at the Hub on Saturday, at 3 P. M., April 30. After getting an ablution and room, I at once interviewed Prof. Joseph R. Buchanan, M. D. From the picture we had seen in the CALIFORNIA MEDICAL JOURNAL, I was led to expect to see an old gentleman, on the decline of life. The picture gives a wrong impression, as he is a very hale and hearty gentleman, smart, sharp, energetic, and an extraordinary close observer and deep thinker, having a wonderful memory. He is destined to labor yet for the good of mankind for at least forty years or more.

I am not sorry that I came on to hear him lecture on his "Therapeutic Sarcognomy." He has about twenty-five in the class. He teaches the triune relationship between body, brain, and soul. The body is governed by the brain, and, in a manner, the brain by the body, and the brain again is governed by the soul. The soul is that *great something* which we cannot grasp and dissect, nor put into a test-tube, trying reactions on it. He spoke of God, or whatever you please, that vitalizes the entire animal machinery—the *individuality of man*. Gall and Spurzheim found a few phrenological points, but it was left for Dr. Buchanan to find the true *organology of the brain*. This cannot be shown by lines on the cranium, but goes deeper—into the convolutions of the brain. The convolutions pointing upward have upward soul tendencies—are correlatively found in the upper part of the body. Those on the base of the brain tend downward, and are more or less debasing in their influences when in an abnormal predominance. I cannot do the subject justice in a short article like this, but would advise each and all progressive readers to subscribe for the *Journal of Man*, price \$1.00 per annum, for a full definition and exposition of the theory (fully proven by facts); also would suggest a perusal of Dr. Buchanan's "Therapeutic Sarcognomy." The first edi-

tion was exhausted in less than seven months, and as Dr. Buchanan failed to have stereotypes of it, he is now compelled to write a second and greatly enlarged edition, which, in all probability, will be out by fall.

The educated practitioner will find, in the knowledge of therapeutic sarcognomy, an immense aid, as it will enable him to locate disease with more precision, and give him a possibility of curing with less drugs, and, in very many instances, without any whatever. Furthermore, sarcognomy teaches the *true art* of healing by animal magnetism and electro-magnetism. We all know that there is a kernel of truth in these practices, that the ordinary so-called magnetic healers, *massageurs et id genus omne*, grope in the dark, knowing not what they do, nor how much harm they may possibly do.

I have been trying to get Professor Buchanan to come out to California—possibly take a chair in the California Medical College—to all which he is not disinclined, as he thinks that the Western climate would suit him better than the cold Eastern winters. He has put in most of his time in the balmy Southern States. As the air of the Pacific slope is more bracing—as everything is on a larger, nobler scale there than at the East—just so will be found a greater expansion of the intellectual and moral nature of its inhabitants, and therefore I believe that such a man as our friend, Dr. Buchanan, would do well there, being welcomed not only by the progressive people, but by the medical profession as well.

During my stay here, so far, I tried to see all the sights that would come home as instructions, hence I took in all the surgical clinics possible. Amongst the hospitals, I found the neatest kept, in best trim, well-stocked in apparatus, and ably managed by thorough surgeons—in order of preference—the Boston City and County Hospital, the Homeopathic Hospital (School of Medicine, Boston University), and Boston General Hospital (Harvard Surgical Arena). The first having the most plethoric purse, has everything, of course, in the best appointed manner.

If I can make it, shall visit some New York and Philadelphia hospitals, and report. But this is getting too long, so good-by till next time.

From yours for truth and knowledge,

JOHN C. SCHLARBAUM.

SELECTIONS.

MEDICAL TREATMENT OF THE INSANE.

Under the foregoing head Dr. Seldon Talcott furnishes the following indications, in the Sixteenth Annual Report of the State Homeopathic Asylum for the Insane, at Middletown, New York. —ED.

ACONITE.

General Action.—Aconite affects, primarily, the cerebro-spinal and sympathetic ganglionic systems. It stimulates the inhibitory centers of the pneumogastric, and by hyper-stimulation the pneumogastric nerve becomes exhausted, as is shown by the heart's action becoming quickened and more irregular, until finally paralysis of the heart may occur. Aconite, when given in large doses, produces inevitable cardiac depression and a tendency to death. In less poisonous doses this drug produces acute inflammatory action throughout the system. The precise manner in which the inflammatory process is produced by aconite has not been satisfactorily explained, but it has been suggested that, by causing paralysis of the vaso-motor nerves, the arterioles dilate, doubling their capacity, and thus the patients are bled, so to speak, into their own vessels. Wherever there is an excessive supply of blood there is a tendency to inflammatory metamorphosis.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Congestion of the brain, with oversensitiveness to light; heat and redness of face, or pale face; carotids pulsate strongly; pulse full and strong (also belladonna, gels., veratrum viride); headache as if the brain was moved or raised; burning in the forehead as if in boiling water; vertigo; conjunctivitis; pupils contracted or dilated; formication over the spine; numbness of spine; spasms from inflammation of spine; numbness and tingling of limbs, jerking of arm and leg; nausea and vomiting of cerebral origin; the least noise, especially of music, aggravates the brain symptoms.

Mind.—Great fear of approaching death; inconsolable anguish; dread of men; fear of ghosts; fears the loss of reason; mental

prostration, with weakness of memory; cannot remember dates; changing moods, from dry anguish to exuberant tears; the mind suffers from the effects of anger or fright.

Sleep.—Sleeplessness with anxiety and mental restlessness.

Accompaniments.—Full, hard pulse and flushed face; hypertrophy of the heart; pain in the cardiac region, and pain and tingling in the left arm.

Special Sphere of Action.—Young, full-blooded people, with bright complexions and lively dispositions; great mental and physical restlessness, with anxiety and fear.

AGARICUS MUSCARIUS.

General Action.—This fungus is classed by toxicologists as a narcotic, acrid poison (Christison); it acts upon the blood, rendering it fluid, so that it runs easily from the bodies of those killed by it; it produces gangrene in the stomach and intestines.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Agaricus produces congestion of the brain, with stupidity; heaviness of the head as if intoxicated; the spine is sensitive to touch; there are severe burning pains in the spine, with jerkings or tremblings of the facial and cervical muscles.

Mind.—Confusion of mind; unable to find the right word when speaking; disinclined to answer questions; sings and talks, but will not answer when spoken to; indisposed to perform any labor, especially mental; ill-humored and irritable; again merry and singing in ecstasies, and again prostrated by general *malaise*; people who are solicitous and anxious about ordinary affairs become, under the effects of agaricus, moody and indifferent to their surroundings.

Sleep.—Irresistible drowsiness in the day-time; on falling asleep the muscles of the body twitch suddenly and the patient awakes.

Accompaniments.—Severe pains in the stomach; grass-green diarrhoeic stools; cutting pains in the abdomen, and sometimes dysenteric discharges.

Special Sphere of Action.—Paretic conditions after sexual and other debauches; mental obtuseness with ill-humor; trembling

and twitching of groups of muscles; coma following febrile or mental excitement; general paresis; mania, and primary dementia.

ANACARDIUM.

General Action.—It depresses the cerebral centers and the organs of special sense; it produces general nervous prostration and a tendency to dementia, variegated by periods of mental excitement.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Sensation of pressure as from a plug on the left side of the vertex, with pressing pain on the top of the head, aggravated by coughing or deep breathing; pain in the temples as from a nail.

Mind.—Great weakness of memory; insensibility to surrounding circumstances; irresistible propensity to swear (also veratrum album); hallucinations of hearing—hears voices of friends who are at a distance; thinks he has two wills, one commands him to do what the other forbids (baptisia, belladonna, lochesis, and stramonium have the same, or similar symptoms).

Sleep.—Sound sleep with vivid dreams, which recur to him during the day as things which really happened.

Accompaniments.—Besides pressure on the head as from a plug, there is pressure in the eyes as with a plug; also pressure as from a plug in the right side of the chest; also pain around the navel, as if a blunt plug were squeezed into the intestines. The head, eyes, chest, and abdomen feel plugged under the influence of anacardium.

Special Sphere of Action.—Mania and dementia, with irresistible propensity to swear and be contrary; mental fatigue and loss of memory from overtaxing the brain.

ARSENICUM.

General Action.—Arsenicum acts upon the ganglionic nervous system; it acts upon the mucous and serous membranes, producing, in the former especially, inflammation of a low grade; there is marked tendency, under arsenicum, of the tissues to become gangrenous; also there are effusions into those cavities which are lined by the serous membranes.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—The nervous system is apparently

affected, reflexly, by the disturbances of the digestive apparatus; there is frontal headache, and the pains are of a burning character; there is vertigo and tinnitus aurium.

Mind.—Melancholia; sad, tearful, and depressed moods; intense anxiety with great restlessness; fears to be left alone lest he should do himself bodily harm; great fear, with cold sweats; cannot find rest anywhere; wants to move from bed to bed; is intensely suicidal; the patient has hallucinations of smell; smells pitch and sulphur, and anticipates consignment to *sheol*.

Sleep.—Sleeplessness, with restlessness and anxiety; frequent starting in sleep; awakened by pain, especially after midnight; after sleep feels as if he had not slept enough; dreams full of care, sorrow, and fear, about thunder-storms, fire, black water, and death.

Accompaniments.—Asthmatic conditions; difficulty of respiration; thirst for small quantities of water at frequent intervals; weakness and palpitation of the heart; emaciation of the body, followed by dropsical tendencies; scanty urine, and burning during micturition.

Special Sphere of Action.—Insanity in those who suffer from profound exhaustion after long, wasting diseases; melancholia with intense restlessness and suicidal propensities. Dr. Hughes states that arsenic is one of the few remedies which causes genuine neuralgia, and it far excels all other remedies in the treatment of the idiopathic disorder. There is intense sensitiveness of the scalp under arsenicum. This drug is said to produce epilepsy with opisthotonos, and it is a valuable remedy in the treatment of epilepsy when the paroxysms recur periodically.

BAPTISIA.

General Action.—It disorganizes the blood, and produces putrid conditions in all parts of the body.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Cerebral congestions; face has a besotted appearance; dull, heavy pain at the base of the brain; paralysis of the left side, with numbness.

Mind.—Confused, as if drunk; feels as if he was sliding away; bed feels too hard (also arnica); thinks his body is scattered

about, and struggles constantly to get himself together; mentally restless, but too lifeless to indulge in active exertion; can be roused, but before answering a question falls asleep again.

Sleep.—Sleeps well till three A. M. (also nux vom.), is then restless till morning; cannot sleep because he thinks his head and body are scattered about; restless with frightful dreams; mutters in a delirious way, even while partially asleep.

Accompaniments.—Intensely fetid breath; dry, hot mouth; tongue very dry and brown, and marked sordes on the teeth; involuntary stools of a strongly offensive nature; the diarrhoea is brownish in color, and often looks like decomposed blood.

Special Sphere of Action.—Mania, melancholia with stupor, and dementia; and all mental disturbances where the conditions simulate typhoid fever.

BELLADONNA.

General Action.—Belladonna acts upon the cerebro-spinal system, causing intense cerebral hyperæmia; there is a bright red face, dilated pupils, intolerance of light, and violent spasms of the muscles of the face, neck, and arms.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Severe headache, especially in the frontal regions; the headache is of a throbbing nature (also glonoine and cactus); the pains suddenly come and as suddenly depart; fullness of the head, with throbbing arteries; boring, shooting pains in the head, all aggravated by noise.

Mind.—Hallucinations and illusions of sight; the patient sees gigantic forms; these sometimes excite laughter, and sometimes fear; maniacal state in which the patient is merry (also hyos.), and again irritable; at times there is furious delirium and rage; the patient tears clothing, bites, strikes, kicks, howls, and shrieks constantly; wants to escape his present environments; on closing his eyes the patient sees frightful visions.

Sleep.—Sleepy yet cannot sleep (also gels.); jerking of the limbs in sleep; awakens with a start as if frightened (also lachesis); singing and talking in sleep; dreams of murder, of robbery, and of danger from fire. Sleeplessness from excessive cerebral hyperæmia.

Accompaniments.—Spasmodic conditions of all the sphincter

muscles; paralysis of the left side, with twitching of the muscles of the right side; bright red condition of the skin; active inflammatory condition of the throat, chest, kidneys, bladder, and genital organs.

Special Sphere of Action.—Insanity following acute disease; full-blooded people, with tendency to cerebral hyperæmia; all mental conditions where active inflammation of the brain coverings exists; threatened apoplexy.

CALCAREA CARB.

General Action.—This drug seems to have a special affinity for the glandular system; its physiological action is not thoroughly understood, but provings and clinical experiences point to the glands of the body as the organs primarily affected by this drug.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—It produces brain-fag, frontal headache, with heaviness of the head, worse from reading or writing; it produces chorea, with one-sided movements; it produces epilepsy, with aura running downwards.

Mind.—Forgetfulness; probably one of the best remedies for this difficulty; the patient misplaces words; fears she will lose her reason; that people will observe her confusion of mind; peevishness; anxiety and shrinking on the approach of evening; much mental trouble about imaginary things.

Sleep.—Awakes too early, 3 A. M.; sleepiness during the day-time; dreams of falling.

Accompaniments.—The menses appear a few days before the proper time, and the flow of blood is often considerable; sensation as if the feet and legs were encased in damp stockings; the patients are pale, weak, poorly nourished, and imperfectly developed.

Special Sphere of Action.—It is especially adapted to cases of mild but sluggish melancholia, in fat, flabby, non-energetic, and pot-bellied persons.

CHAMOMILLA.

General Action.—Cerebro-spinal system.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Violent, constricting, pressing, boring headache; pressure from the vertex extending over the forehead and temples; congestion of the brain following fits of anger; stiffness

of the cervical muscles; drawing pains in the scapula; pain in the back extending through the abdomen to the front and into the genitals; severe pains in the loins and hip joints.

Mind.—Irritable, impatient, peevish, and snappish; extreme sensitiveness to external impressions (also coffea, ignatia, belladonna, and staphissagria); imagines he hears voices of absent friends at night; bad effects of anger; the patient is extremely cross and sensitive (nux. vom. cross, but not so sensitive as chamomilla).

Sleep.—Sleeplessness from pain and from ill-temper; even while sleeping the patient moans, weeps, wails, and starts suddenly; on falling asleep is tormented by anxious and frightful dreams.

Accompaniments.—Sharp toothache; griping colic, with flatulence; severe pains across the abdomen, followed by bilious diarrhoea; menstrual colic following anger; membranous dysmenorrhoea, and acrid discharges from the vagina.

Special Sphere of Action.—It is adapted to diseases characterized by severe cramping and colicky pains; the mental state is one of intense whining, moaning, complaining, restlessness, and irritability; resistive melancholia and sub-acute mania.

CIMICIFUGA RACEMOSA.

General Action.—It produces cerebral and spinal hyperæmia, with irregularity of motion, and great weakness and tremulousness of the extremities.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Headache throughout the whole brain, with sense of soreness in the occipital region; vertigo; brain feels too heavy and too large for the cranium; top of the head feels as if it will fly off.

Mind.—Great melancholy, with sleeplessness, followed sometimes by transient exhilaration; hallucinations of sight, sees rats, sheep, etc.; sensation as if a heavy black cloud had settled over her and enveloped her head, so that all was darkness and confusion; at the same time there seemed to be a weight like lead upon the heart; suspicious, indifferent, taciturn; takes no interest in household matters (also sepia).

Sleep.—Sleeplessness from nervous irritation; sleeplessness, with great depression and despair.

Accompaniments.—There is a general rheumatic diathesis; severe cutting pains in the joints and in the back; in women there is, with the mental depression, a sense of weight and bearing down in the uterine region (also belladonna), with a feeling of heaviness and torpor in the lower extremities; retarded menstruation; suppression of menses from a cold, with rheumatic pains in the limbs; general muscular rheumatism; rheumatic pains in the head, extending down to the neck and back; tremulousness of the muscles throughout the body.

Special Sphere of Action.—Mental depression, associated with uterine disease; mental depression, accompanied by rheumatic pain; mental depression and tremulousness following overwork and active dissipation; delirium tremens; bad effects of opium.

CINCHONA.

General Action.—Cinchona acts upon the ganglionic nervous system, and hence it affects especially the functions of vegetative life. Cinchona changes both the quantity and the quality of the blood; under its influence the blood becomes more fluid than normal; the circulation becomes impaired, and we have general debility and erethism, followed by chills, fever, sweat, and finally hemorrhages. Cinchona produces congestions of the liver, obstructing the functions of that organ; it produces excessive sensitiveness of the entire nervous system.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Intense congestion of the brain; intense throbbing headache; vertigo; ringing in the ears; deafness; blindness; with the dizziness there is a feeling as if the head would burst; this feeling is worse from motion or sudden anger.

Mind.—Chooses wrong words, and makes feeble and senseless expressions; the patient cherishes a fixed idea that he is unhappy, and that he is persecuted by his enemies; feels impelled to jump out of bed; wants to destroy himself, but lacks courage; is low-spirited, gloomy, and has no desire to live; cherishes an uncontrollable anxiety; and, above all, is stubborn and disobedient. Patients are sometimes sent to insane asylums because they have been made insane, in my opinion, not alone by the disease from which they suffered, but also by a blind, reckless, and unwarrantable use of cinchona, or its alkaloid, given in overpowering

and disastrous doses. Cinchona, if unwisely used, may become as dangerous in its effects as the excessive use of alcoholic stimulants.

Sleep.—Irresistible desire to sleep after eating; constant, yet unrefreshing sleep; or, at times, sleepless from ideas crowding too rapidly upon each other; the patient is bent upon making plans for the future, hence his sleep is short and unrefreshing.

Accompaniments.—Loss of appetite; slow digestion; thin, watery, involuntary diarrhoea; weakness and debility from long-continued sickness, and from excessive losses of fluids from the body. Fever recurring at somewhat regular intervals.

Special Sphere of Action.—Melancholia and sub-acute mania, where there is general anæmia, profound debility, and a tendency to periodical aggravation of all the symptoms.

DIGITALIS.

General Action.—Acts upon the cerebro-spinal system, especially affecting the cardiac branch of the pneumogastric nerve. The first effect upon the heart is to strengthen the contractions and diminish the number of the heart beats; the force of these contractions being increased, exhaustion soon follows; then the number of beats become greatly increased with a marked decrease in their strength; this loss of strength may continue until paralysis results.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Headache with congestions; marked pulsations in the forehead (cactus has pulsations in top of head); heavy paralyzed feelings in the legs.

Mind.—Anxiety and fear of the future; low spirits, with inclination to weep; the eyes seem constantly floating in tears; anxiety as from a troubled conscience; fear of death; fear that the heart will stop beating.

Sleep.—Uneasy, unrefreshing sleep; frequently starting, and awakes easily many times during the night (also phosphorus).

Accompaniments.—Constant urging to urinate; the urine is scanty, coffee-colored, and has a brick-dust sediment (also lyco-podium); extremely weak and rapid pulse, or a slow, full, sluggish pulse.

Special Sphere of Action.—Melancholia following masturba-

tion; mental depression in cases of heart disease; where the circulation is weak and greatly disturbed.

HYOSCYAMUS.

General Action.—Cerebro-spinal system, producing special effects upon the sensorium, causing hallucinations of sight, and great mental activity.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Cerebral congestion of a milder type than that produced by belladonna; trembling of the limbs; spasmodic twitching of the muscles of the back and in the organs of locomotion.

Mind.—Delirium, accompanied by periods of stupor; thinks he is in the wrong place; foolish laughter; *almost always jolly*; talks in a hurried and cheerful manner; intensely jealous; at times lascivious; inclined to uncover the body and expose the sexual organs; sings amorous and obscene songs.

Sleep.—Sleeplessness from excessive mental excitement; sleepless without any apparent cause; dreams of obscene things; has dreams of a terrifying nature and awakens with a loud scream.

Accompaniments.—Retention of urine (also cantharis and arsenicum); sometimes has involuntary discharges of urine (also causticum); attacks of hiccough (also ignatia and cicuta virosa); spasmodic twitching of various muscles; tendency to convulsions; dry and spasmodic cough; involuntary stools.

Special Sphere of Action.—It is specially adapted to women who become insane during pregnancy or after parturition; to those who suffer from jealousy or unhappy love; to victims of delirium tremens; and to young people and children who are inclined to convulsive attacks, to epilepsy, and to chorea.

IGNATIA.

General Action.—Cerebro-spinal system, more especially on the spine, producing hyperæsthesia of all the senses.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Congestive headache following anger or grief, especially grief; headache with bruised feeling, or a sensation as if a nail were driven in the temples; occipital headache, better from pressure. Its effects upon the spine are shown by the sudden jerking of the limbs, by twitchings of groups of muscles, by a feeling of heaviness in the feet, with a sensation of burning in the soles of the feet.

Mind.—Intense, though partially suppressed grief; anxiety as if crime had been committed; grief following the loss of friends; grief of children after being reprov'd or punished by parents; fearfulness; irresoluteness; timidity; sad, quiet melancholy.

Sleep.—Very light sleep; jerking of the limbs on going to sleep; dreams of one thing, particularly of the object of affection.

Accompaniments.—Frequent sighing; desire to take a deep breath; sensitive spine; sharp, constricting pains in the anus; constipation; stools large and soft, but passed with difficulty; spasmodic cough from mental anxiety.

Special Sphere of Action.—Mental disorders from shock of bad news, from disappointed love, from the effects of mortification; long-continued but suppressed grief, occasioned by family afflictions or by financial misfortunes; chorea or epilepsy in children, whose troubles are occasioned by feeling that they have been unkindly or harshly treated.

MERCURIUS.

General Action.—Acts upon the entire organism, but especially upon the vegetative system, producing depression of functional power, and decomposing and disintegrating the organic constituents of the body; secretion and excretion are increased, but the secretions become thinner than normal and the excretions become acrid and excoriating.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Congestion of the brain, with feeling of a band about the head (also lycopodium); the scalp is painful to the touch (also nitric acid, china, nux vomica and arnica); weakness and trembling in the limbs and back, worse at night; cold extremities.

Mind.—Great weakness of memory; loss of all sense of decency; delusions concerning food; eats fæces and drinks urine; eyes dull and staring; under the influence of impaired vision he becomes suspicious and distrustful of those about him.

Sleep.—Sleepy during the day-time, but sleepless at night; sleeplessness is occasioned by the fact that all pains, in the mercurious case, are aggravated at night.

Accompaniments.—Pale face; swollen tongue and gums; loss

of teeth; profuse, watery discharges from the mouth; a sluggish condition of the abdominal organs; foul breath; pain and soreness of the muscles everywhere; bone pains at night and in damp weather.

Special Sphere of Action.—Demented or depressed conditions following scrofulous, syphilitic, rheumatic and catarrhal affections. Mercurius is a drug whose special sphere of action covers those general mental states which naturally follow disorganizations of the physical system by diseases which are the result of exposure to the worst types of both weather and women.

NUX VOMICA.

General Action.—It acts especially upon the spinal cord, causing an excitability of both motor and sensory centers; it produces tetanic convulsions and rigid flexions of the body, as opisthotonos; it also produces spasmodic contractions of the muscles of the throat, of the face, and of the intestinal and urinary tracts.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—It produces congestions of the brain and stupefaction. This drug produces a feeling as if the victim had indulged for a long time in a heavy debauch; there is a dull, heavy pain throughout the head, and especially over the left eye, or in the occiput; there are spasms of the muscles of the neck, back, and limbs, sometimes so severe that the patient stands upon his head and heels, with body curved upwards.

Mind.—Intense irritability; disposition to find fault with everything; quarrelsome, vindictive, ill-humored (also bryonia); over-sensitive to external impressions; cannot tolerate light or noise (also belladonna), music, or strong odor; inclination to kill beloved friends; inclination to commit suicide, but too cowardly to consummate his desires; extreme sensitiveness to the words and attentions of others.

Sleep.—After long-continued mental exertion, the nux patient is sleepless from an inability to compose the mind and disengage himself from attention to the business which he has had in hand; falls asleep late at night; wakes at 3 A. M.; lies awake tossing and fretting for two or three hours; falls asleep when he should get up, and, after a short morning nap, awakens unrefreshed and ill-tempered, his anger rising against himself and those around him.

Accompaniments.—Photophobia, aggravated in the morning. Nose plugged with mucus on awakening, followed by profuse watery discharges after nostrils are relieved of the plug; besotted expression of the face; bitter eructations, with nausea in the morning; pressure and pain in the stomach after eating; constipation with ineffectual urging.

Special Sphere of Action.—This remedy is especially indicated in behalf of nervous people of sedentary habits, or so-called bilious people, and those who suffer from chronic dyspepsia, from chronic constipation, and from chronic hypochondriacal melancholia; mental depression from over-study, from over-anxiety, from over-drinking; loss of mental power from masturbation, and from excessive sexual indulgence with those of the opposite sex.

PHOSPHORUS.

General Action.—Acts upon the blood, disorganizing that fluid; acts upon the vegetative nervous system; acts upon the bones, especially upon the maxillaries; phosphorous patients tend to hemorrhages, necrosis, fatty degenerations of the liver and heart, and sanguinous infiltrations of the lung tissues.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Softening of the brain, with persistent headache; acute atrophy of the brain and the medulla oblongata; congestion of the brain, with throbbing of the temples; heat and burning in the brain and spine; weakness and heaviness in legs.

Mind.—Apathy, stupidity, indifference to everything, indisposition to mental or physical exertion; ideas slow in evolution; inability to think; occasionally nervous, fearful, and hysterical.

Sleep.—Sleepless before midnight; falls asleep but awakens easily many times during the night.

Accompaniments.—Hoarseness; hollow, spasmodic cough; expectorations streaked with blood; short, labored respirations; great weakness, prostration, and emaciation.

Special Sphere of Action.—Insanity from masturbation, or from excessive sexual indulgence; insanity resulting from phthisis; cerebral softening; spinal softening; locomotor ataxia; paralysis following wasting diseases.

PULSATILLA.

General Action.—Pulsatilla, through the cerebro-spinal system, works its effects upon the mucous and serous membranes; upon the veins; upon the generative organs of both sexes; upon the ears and eyes. In its general effects it produces increased catarrhal discharges from all mucous surfaces.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—The brain symptoms seem to rise, by reflex action, from diseased conditions of other organs of the body; there is sick headache, with suppression of the menses; headache from an overloaded stomach, especially after eating fat food; headache after catarrh of the nasal and bronchial air passages; stiffness and rheumatic pains in the nape of the neck; pain in the small of the back, as from a sprain; hip joint painful as if dislocated; drawing, tensive pains in the thigh and legs.

Mind.—Constant inclination to weep; gentle, timid, and yielding disposition; at the same time fretful, morose, and easily put out of sorts; fretfulness and fearfulness are the chief inhabitants of the mental temple of the pulsatilla patient.

Sleep.—Sleeplessness from late suppers, or from eating too much; sleepless the first half of the night; sleeps freely towards morning; screaming or whining in sleep on account of vivid or frightful dreams.

Special Sphere of Action.—Religious melancholia, especially in women who are weak in body, and anxious and apprehensive in mind; it is especially applicable to those states of hypochondriacal depression preceded or accompanied by profuse catarrhal discharges, and by inflammatory conditions of the genital organs in both sexes; acute glandular affections, particularly in the breasts and testicles; recent gastric disorders; inflammatory states of the eye and ear.

RHUS TOX.

General Action.—Acts upon the cerebro-spinal system; acts upon the skin, the lymphatic glands, and the muscular tissues; it produces conditions simulating rheumatism, erysipelas, and typhus fever.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Congestive headache, with burning in the ears and vertex; vesicular eruptions upon the scalp; full-

ness and heaviness, and sensation of weight in the forehead; rheumatic pains in the back and joints of the shoulder, arm, and wrist; fullness and pain in the limbs on first moving in the morning, relieved by constant motion.

Mind.—Absence of mind; forgetfulness; difficulty in remembering the most recent events; apprehensiveness; anxiety with restlessness; cannot stay in bed; delirium; thinks he is walking over large fields; suicidal and wants to drown himself; fears he is being poisoned.

Sleep.—Repeated yawnings without being sleepy; dreams of taking severe exercise, and awakens very much exhausted as a result of these dreams.

Accompaniments.—Diseases of a rheumatic nature; erysipelas with mild delirium; eruptions upon the skin of a vesicular nature; great debility with restlessness; fever of a rheumatic type, with marked cerebral disturbances.

Special Sphere of Action.—Mental depression in rheumatic patients, with great physical restlessness; delirium accompanying diseases which result from exposure to storms.

SILICEA.

General Action.—It acts upon the sympathetic system, and it produces marked results upon the glandular structure, the bones, and the mucous surfaces. Silicea has a marked influence over the suppurative process.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Headache from congestion of the brain produced by excessive sensitiveness of the nervous system; headache aggravated by noise, motion, and stopping; headache produced by excitement of the passions; the headache is severe, throbbing, shooting, and burning in character; the silicea headache is usually circumscribed and may affect the occiput, the vertex, or the forehead; the silicea headache is relieved by warmth and by carefully wrapping up the head in soft cloth; the spine is sensitive to touch; there is formication of the limbs, and a feeling of weakness in walking, produced by spinal debility.

Mind.—Weak-minded; desponding; low-spirited; wishes to drown herself; compunctions of conscience about trifles; yielding disposition; faint-hearted; has "no sand."

Sleep.—Somnambulism; has anxious dreams of murder; has lascivious dreams; jerking of the limbs during sleep.

Accompaniments.—Abdomen hard and tense; constipation; attempts at stool are but partially successful; swollen and hardened glands; great debility; ulcers with stinging, burning pains; small wounds heal with great difficulty.

Special Sphere of Action.—Mental depression, depending upon long-continued and deep-seated disease, involving and seriously affecting the most prominent tissues of the body; melancholia after disease of the bones; melancholia accompanied by boils, carbuncles, ulcers, or swollen glands.

STRAMONIUM.

General Action.—It acts upon the sensorium, stimulating it to undue activity and inducing hallucinations of sight and hearing of the most vivid character; it also produces suppression of urine; great sexual excitement; tendency to convulsion; fiery eruptions of the skin and dryness of the throat with fear of water.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Violent congestion of the brain; excessive heat in the head; pulsations on the forehead, but less violent than those produced by belladonna; twitching of the hands and feet, and trembling of the limbs; cataleptic states.

Mind.—Extraordinary mental excitement; sudden and kaleidoscopic changes in the mental state; at times merry and enjoying himself by singing and dancing; at times proud, haughty, and intolerant of those around; at times full of rage, trying to strike with great vigor those within his reach; and, again, dullness of the senses, with stupid indifference to everything about him. Hope and fear, jollity and rage, frenzy and apathy, follow each other in rapid succession under stramonium; or the passions and the mental manifestations become strangely jumbled and mixed in their exhibition, under the influence of this stimulating drug. The stramonium patient desires light and company, and, at the same time, he is often terrified by bright objects, and seeks to fight those whom he constantly wishes to have in his presence. The stramonium patient has hallucinations of sight, in which horrible images are conjured up, and horrible animals are seen jumping out of the ground and running at the victim.

Sleep.—Deep, heavy sleep, with snoring or stertorous breathing; this heavy sleep is short, and the patient is often roused, apparently, by seeing horrible objects in his dreams; twitching and cramping during sleep.

Accompaniments.—Suppression of urine; convulsions from the sight of bright objects; trembling of the whole body, as if from fright; difficulty of deglutition; spasms are often excited when water is placed at the lips of the stramonium patient; under stramonium the sexual desires of both sexes are greatly increased.

Special Sphere of Action.—Chorea, epilepsy, hydrophobia, hysteria, delirium tremens, and, most of all, acute mania, where the patient rises to a condition of mental frenzy, far surpassing the exaltation of the hyoscyamus case, but where the actual inflammatory condition of the cerebrum is of a milder degree than that found under belladonna.

VERATRUM ALB.

General Action.—This drug acts upon the cerebro-spinal system; it acts also upon the entire vegetative sphere; it disorganizes the blood and impairs the circulation; it produces collapse, vomiting, and purging, spasmodic colic, and clammy perspiration.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Congestion of the brain when stooping; headache as if the head would burst; dull pressure in the vertex; coldness as if ice were on the vertex; paralytic weakness of the limbs; limbs feel as if asleep; hands and feet feel bruised, and are icy cold; cramps in the calves of the legs.

Mind.—Anxiety and apprehension; a tendency to weep, and howl, and scream over some dreaded misfortune; tendency to tear and cut clothing; when the rage of mania subsides there is a tendency to converse about religious matters; the religious natures of the veratrum patients become chameleon-hued in their manifestations; they pray and curse in alternation for many hours in succession; finally these patients despair of salvation and of their position in society. When disengaged from religious contemplation, the veratrum patients are inclined to gossip, to find fault with others, to scold their friends, and to call their neighbors hard names. The veratrum patient sometimes fancies herself pregnant, even when eighty or ninety years of age.

Sleep.—At times very sleepy and drowsy; at times exalted and sleepless for days and nights in succession; sleeplessness from undue mental activity, preceding a state of physical collapse.

Accompaniments.—Pale, sunken face, with a blue nose, and cold perspiration on the forehead; violent vomiting, first of food, then of green, slimy, viscid liquid; profuse, painful, and violent diarrhoea; discharges sudden and involuntary, with cramping pains in the bowels and in the calves of the legs; great difficulty of respiration; palpitation of the heart, with anxiety; sudden failure of the strength; extreme prostration, with coldness and tendency to cramp.

Special Sphere of Action.—Acute mania, with rapid exhaustion; acute dementia, with prostration and coldness of the extremities; acute melancholia, with intense anxiety and despair of salvation, particularly in women whose menses have been suppressed, or in women who fancy themselves pregnant.

VERATRUM VIRIDE.

General Action.—Acts upon the cerebro-spinal system, and especially upon the pneumogastric nerve, disturbing the circulatory apparatus, and causing congestion and inflammation of the brain and other organs; it produces intense prostration and tendency to spasms; it causes a strong beating of the heart, and a quick pulse, but a slow respiration.

Brain and Spinal Cord.—Headache proceeding from the nape of the neck; active congestion of the brain, followed by vomiting; cutting pains in the neck and shoulders; cramps of the legs and hands; shocks like electricity pass rapidly through the limbs; convulsive twitching of all the muscles of the extremities.

Mind.—Intensely quarrelsome and delirious; from a condition of excitability and quarrelsomeness, the patient passes to a state where she is sullen, suspicious, and distrustful of those around her; the veratrum viride patient has in mind a constant fear that she will be insane; also thinks she will be poisoned.

Sleep.—Restless each night, but generally secures some sleep; is disturbed by frightful dreams of being on the water and of being drowned.

Accompaniments.—Convulsions before, during, and after labor; intense nausea and vomiting; cutting neuralgic pains in the abdomen; profuse urine, which is pale; active congestions of the chief organs of the body; slow, weak pulse, or palpitation, with fluttering sensation in region of the heart; or loud beating of the heart, with quick pulse.

Special Sphere of Action.—Puerperal mania; general paresis, particularly after convulsions; epileptic mania, with frequent convulsive attacks; hysterical mania; melancholia, with tendencies to chorea; melancholia or mania following cerebro-spinal fever.

The results of the foregoing methods of treatment may be observed in the following statistical table:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Patients in the asylum September 30, 1885.....	174	181	355
Admitted during the year ending Sept. 30, 1886....	101	112	213
Whole number of cases treated within the year....	275	293	568
Number discharged within the year.....	82	75	157
Number discharged within the year as recovered...	41	39	80
Number discharged within the year as improved....	11	3	14
Number discharged within the year as unimproved.	20	26	46
Deaths.....	10	7	17
Patients remaining September 30, 1886.....	193	218	411
Maximum number within the year.....	...	...	460
Minimum number within the year.....	...	...	355
Daily average.....	197	213	410
Percentage of recoveries on number discharged.....	...	...	50.95
Percentage of deaths on whole number treated.....	...	...	2.99

—*N. Y. Medical Times.*

MERCK'S CONCENTRATED LACTIC ACID—SOME OF ITS USES IN DERMATOLOGY.

ABOUT twelve months since I read an article by a noted Berlin professor pertaining to the use of Merck's concentrated lactic acid in the treatment of epitheliomatous cancer and its local action on structures other than epithelioma. The article referred to first led me to use this remedy in a number of cases other than epithelioma; in the following I will cite and give a short sketch of some of the cases in which I used it:—

February 6, 1886, Mr. A., male, aged 46, married (one child 7 years old, strong and healthy), occupation railroad official, called at my

office to be treated for a disease of the hands and feet which, he stated, had existed for seven years, during that time annoying him very much. He had had the advice of several physicians, and used numerous applications and internal remedies; also a course of treatment at the Hot Springs. The severity of the disease fluctuated, at times seeming as if about to recover, then again relapsing to its former state. One of the most annoying symptoms was itching. Upon examination I found the following condition: An excessive and somewhat circumscribed irregular thickening of the epidermis of, and involving almost the entire surface of, the palms of both hands, parts of the anterior and inner surface of the thumb and fingers; of the feet, the toes and plantar arches were involved in a like manner. A patch of chronic eczema involving the surface was found between the internal malleoli and the base of os calcis. Another, almost circular, and about one and one-half inches in diameter, located on the posterior surface of, and near the elbow of, the right arm. A similar patch, involving about one-third of the back of the right hand, extended from the wrist to, and including the metacarpo-phalangeal joint of, the little finger. The dorsal surface of the middle and ring fingers, and great toes, was affected in a like manner. The palms of the hands were not fissured, but parts of the dorsal surface of the middle and ring fingers, the spots spoken of on the back of the right hand, and those on the feet, were; the one on the right forearm was not. I diagnosed the disease of the palmer surface of the hand and the plantar surface of the feet as "tylosis," the other, as I have already stated, as chronic eczema. The former condition in this case evidently developed spontaneously, as the occupation of the patient was not nor is such as to cause it.

I here append a translation made from Kaposi, "Hautkrankheiten," page 532:—

"We sometimes see tylosis develop spontaneously on the glans penis or on the palms of the hands and backs of the fingers of persons whose vocation is not such as would cause this condition (clerks, ladies, etc.). I have seen this tylotic condition develop within a few months and continue to extend, and after the lapse of three or four years disappear spontaneously. I have seen it,

however, more frequently continue its course uninterrupted for a much longer period."

I also append the following from Hebra und Kaposi, "Hautkrankheiten," Vol. II, page 25:—

"We sometimes find tylotic formation that cannot be attributed to any special cause, as, for example, on the glans penis and on the inner border of the arch of the foot. They usually differ from those tylotic formations that are produced by pressure, by their uneven, rough surface, darker color, and their tendency to peripheral extension."

One of the first energetic measures I employed in treating the tylosis was a caustic potassa solution. This, when cautiously applied, succeeded in macerating, as it were, the dense horny layer. This procedure did very nicely, but it has several objections. One of them is, that the derma is more readily attacked than the epiderma; wherever there may be a fissure or only slight abrasion, and the solution comes in contact with it, more or less destruction of tissue is sure to follow, the consequent pains being very severe.

Recognizing that I was making very slow and painful progress, I ceased this treatment and applied simple cerate to the hands for several days until the soreness caused by the caustic potash solution had been relieved. I then applied an alcoholic solution of hydrg. chlor. corros. (about ten gr. to the oz.). I applied it well to the palms of the hands, and from what I had heard and read, expected to see the objectional horny layer lifted off in a few days, but to my surprise I found that I had only succeeded in producing an ulceration in two places and keeping my patient up all night suffering with intense pain.

It was at this time that I read of the medicament forming the subject of this paper. I immediately ordered some to try in this case, for if it would produce disintegration of the epithelium, and, as the author claims, not attack other tissues—why, that was just what I wanted. I applied it to the palms, rubbing it well in. In fifteen minutes I was able to easily remove by gentle scraping (with a knife) quite a quantity of the epithelium. Seven hours later I again applied the acid, and within from twen-

ty-four to forty-eight hours every particle of the tylotic formation peeled off, leaving the palm of the hands as smooth and soft as that of a babe. A like result was obtained on the fingers and feet. This condition, I am sorry to say, lasted only about six days (the patient in the meantime using ung. zinc. oxidi benz., changing off with tar ointment), when I noticed that here and there in spots on the palm of the hands and also on the fingers the epidermis began to thicken. I immediately applied the acid. The same result followed as before. In this manner I continued using the ointment, and when necessary the acid, and at the end of about the fifth month, I had the satisfaction of seeing the hands and feet completely cured. That has been eight months since, and so far there has been no return. I would further state that there was at no time a formation of serum between the tylotic formation and the tissue beneath, as would result from the use of hydrarg. chlor. corros. sol. The pain was scarcely noticeable; furthermore, when the acid came in contact with an abrasion or fissure, the pain would last only a few moments, no injury resulting, as the derma was not attacked. A siege of two months was required before the eczema yielded to treatment. The usual remedies were employed.

Mrs. B. called to consult me in regard to yellowish-brown spots on her forehead and upper part of her face. Diagnosis, chloasma hepaticum. I applied Merck's concentrated lactic acid diluted with water, one to three. The second application produced a slight burning, tingling pain, as described by patient. After the second application, the surface treated became quite red and slightly inflamed; as soon as the inflammation subsided, which was in about twenty-four or thirty hours, the discolored epidermis began to peel off, but only in spots. I again used the diluted acid until the parts became again inflamed, then ceased; a day or two later the epidermis peeled off nicely, leaving the surface smooth and a pinkish red. I had the patient use oxide zinc ointment for a few days. In about four days she had fully recovered. I will here state that the patient was not permitted to bring water in contact with the parts under treatment until they had begun to desquamate.

Miss E., blonde, called to consult me about small yellowish spots on her face and forehead. I diagnosed it ephelides, or so-called summer spots. They were treated as case second and with the same result.

Mr. G., male, age 42, occupation fireman, called at my office to consult me in regard to his hands. I found the following condition: The epidermis had become so enormously thickened that it was impossible for him to more than half close his hand. I pronounced the trouble tylosis, and treated him in the following manner: On the left hand I placed a rubber glove, and the right (which was much the worse) I treated with lactic acid. My result in this case was just as in the first case. In six or eight days from the beginning of treatment (using the acid pure morning and evening), the tylotic condition had been completely removed while the other hand improved but little. I then used the acid on the left hand with the same result as above stated. I do not know if the tylotic condition returned soon after or not, as I lost sight of the patient a few days after I had ceased treating him.

I also used this acid in a number of cases of common warts. I found by taking a pointed instrument (I usually use a tooth-pick) and applying the remedy thoroughly, that after three to five hours, the top of the wart to the derma would be easily removed; but it required two or three applications a day for several days to remove the prongs of horny epithelium that dip into the corium. The latter applications are always more or less painful, pain produced by the acid coming in contact with the denuded surface, although the tissue was not destroyed, as would be the case if caustic potash or hydrag. chlor. corros. solution were used.

I have used this acid in a number of cases of herpes tonsurans where there were but few patches of it; also in pityriasis versicolor. I found that in nine cases out of ten one application was sufficient, as five minutes after a thorough application of this remedy I could with a piece of cotton easily remove the epidermis, and consequently the disease, as they are both local. I have not had a case of herpes tonsurans of the scalp, therefore do not know how it would act in a case of that kind. The periphery of a herpes

tonsurans patch will invariably bleed when subjected to the above treatment.

I would like to mention that in the first case I used the acid about two or three times a day.—*Journal of Cutaneous and Genito-Urinary Diseases*.

A SPEEDY CURE OF WHOOPING-COUGH.

MOHN, a Norwegian physician, had in his own family a case of scarlatina and whooping-cough. After the violence of the scarlatinal attack had subsided, but while the whooping-cough was still present, Mohn disinfected the child's bedding with the fumes of sulphur. Just previous to the fumigation, the child had a severe paroxysm of coughing, which led the father to hesitate in his employment of the sulphur. He was surprised and gratified, however, to observe that the disease was cured; and the patient's sister, who had a cough, the sequela of pertussis, was also cured. These children were not included in the fumigation intentionally but inhaled such vapor as casually permeated their apartment.

In a subsequent severe case, the writer, after the failure of other means, had recourse again to inhalations of sulphur gas, with prompt success. He cites successful cases of five months in age, and children of varying ages have been cured in this manner. He proceeds as follows: The patients are dressed in clean linen, and taken from their bedroom to another room. In their absence bedding, furniture, playthings, linen, clothing—everything which the sick-room contained, is so arranged that the fumes of sulphur can penetrate to all. Six and a half drams of sulphur per cubic metre of air space in the room are burned, and the fumes allowed to permeate the room for five hours. At evening the child is taken back to the sick-room and put in a bed which was disinfected; it awakes the next morning cured.—*Revue Internationale*, No. 35.

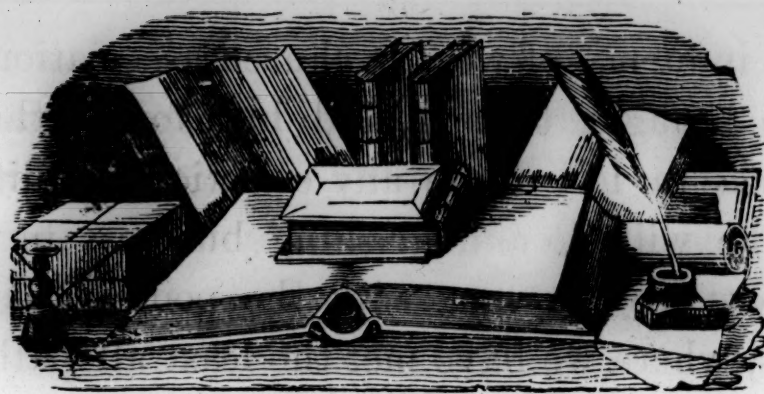
CARICA PAPAYA AS A GALACTAGOGUE.

To us, at least, the employment of carica papaya as a stimulant to the mammary secretion is a novelty. We are familiar with its employment as a digestive ferment, and in a recent number have alluded to the insufficiency of the experimental data on which this employment rests. Recently the Royal Society of New South Wales appointed a committee for inquiring into the properties of this drug, and they have published a short analysis of their report in the *Australasian Medical Gazette* for February, 1887. Their experiments were made with the liquid extract, containing not more than four per cent of alcohol, a tincture of the ordinary pharmacopœia strength, and a solid extract of a gelatinous consistency. Their experiments appear to show that the mammary secretion could be stimulated, in cases where the flow had commenced to fail, either by the internal administration of the drug, or by topical applications. It is even claimed that in the virgin breast it can call forth a limpid secretion, but that this effect is merely transitory.

The committee appear to claim without reserve the greatest efficiency for carica papaya as a galactagogue. They have also noticed that when administered to pregnant patients, it acts as an abortifacient.

The committee have likewise made a few experiments as regards its digestive power on meat, and while admitting that they were not considered satisfactory, the opinion was expressed that such power as was generally attributed to the drug in this particular was exerted on the sarcolemma, the muscle cell or contents of the sarcous particles becoming released and exposed to the thorough action of the gastric juices. It was found to have no solvent action on albumen, a statement which, in our opinion, strongly supports our skepticism in its digestive properties.

Carica papaya, however, like many other examples that could be named, is perhaps only an example of the difference in efficiency of different preparations of the same article. We do not feel prepared to deny the presence in carica of a ferment which, under certain conditions, may accomplish the solution of proteids. The only point that we would make is that the conditions under which it should be prepared, and under which its activity is exerted, are not yet recognized with sufficient certainty to warrant any indications for its employment.—*Therapeutic Gazette*.



EDITORIAL.

The International and Eclectic Medicine.—Some of our writers seem to carry the idea that the *summum bonum* of our future lies in recognition from the coming International Medical Congress. If representatives of our school are afforded recognition, it will be simply a source of satisfaction, and not very much of that, after all. Eclectic medicine has flourished, where its representatives have had any ability, for nearly fifty years, without recognition from the old school. It has done this in spite of ridicule, calumny, and attempted class legislation, and in spite of some very objectionable rottenness within.

It has carried on its back the load of Buchanan's infamy. It has associated itself with blatant advertisers, has tolerated cancer curers—those who cure with plasters, those who cure by rubbing, those who cure by purging the blood of new growth elements, or who propose to—none of whom possess a single intelligent idea of the pathology of cancer. Yet these leeches have been fastened on, and eclectic medicine has still enough of the elements of virtue to neutralize such influences and flourish. In some parts of the East, to-day, eclectics are the most popular physicians known.

The very fact that the old school try to ignore Eclectic Medicine, gives it strength with the people. The opposition may raise up enemies, but it will also muster a quota of friends. The position of martyrdom which some eclectics love so well to assume, certainly has a taking effect with certain people.

The writer has practiced medicine in allopathic strongholds, where the most strenuous efforts were made to choke him off; where the meanest kinds of misrepresentation were employed,

and where the influence of wealth, church associations, and social influence were brought to bear, and has found that there was really a bonanza in it. Place any eclectic of ability in such a position, and he will do a flourishing business in two or three years. We have always met with the poorest success in getting a business, where we have met the least allopathic spleen.

The greatest fears for the future of eclectic medicine that we entertain, are that it will not, in this age of growing intelligence, be properly represented. It cannot, except in the backwoods, be represented by men of meager attainments, be their natural abilities what they may. Our practitioners must be thoroughly educated, not simply in the use of a few indigenous remedies, valuable aids though they be, but they must know something of the entire scope of medicine. Their position as eclectics signifies that they must not only know what is peculiar to their own school, but they must be conversant with what other schools are teaching, in order that they may be in a position to be eclectics, in the "true sense of the word," as our "regular" friend would say.

To our friends on the anxious seat, who are considering the "International" problem, we would suggest a little attention to these points. Let us become worthy of the highest position capable of being attained by physicians, and we shall have no need of making a fight for admittance to the International Medical Congress. Instead, the International, before many years, will be applying for admission, perhaps, to the National Eclectic Medical Association of the United States. What a joke that would be, indeed.

Quinine in Typhoid Fever.—This is a subject which many eclectics supposed settled long ago. We have been taught that quinine is one of the objectionable drugs in said disease. The experience of the writer has been against the use of quinine in any form of fever, where the tongue is dry, the temperature elevated, and secretions generally arrested. We have seen many a case aggravated by the agent, in small doses, say three or four grains, repeated at intervals of two or three hours.

But there is evidently another phase of the matter. Dr. Lyman Watkins' article in last month's issue contains some candid confessions upon the subject, made with a view of benefiting his brethren, and not for self-glorification. This is the true eclectic for you; the proof of the pudding is the eating. If a theory is disproven in practice, then is the time to abandon it. Dr. Watkins lost several cases of typhoid, and found that to redeem himself he was obliged to resort to quinine in heroic doses.

In such cases the thermometer is a valuable aid, for the reckless and indiscriminate administration of the drug in twenty or thirty grain doses is fraught with danger. Such a dose depresses the temperature rapidly, and it is only in those cases where the temperature is high that it is required. Dr. Watkins informs us that when the temperature was below 102° Fahr. no quinine was administered, but when it rose above this point it could readily be lowered by the massive dose of quinine. Therefore it is evidently important in such cases that a careful watch be kept over the temperature.

This experience tallies very well with the ideas set forth by Alfred L. Loomis, M. D., in his "Practical Medicine." He evidently has but a meager therapeutic store on hand, but this he proposes to make effective. He considers as the two most effective and reliable agents for the reduction of the temperature, quinine, and cold water either in the form of baths, packs, or affusions. Of the quinine, as employed in this particular disease, he writes: "The quinine is not administered to produce any specific action upon the typhoid fever poison, but is employed for its antipyretic power." He proposes to lower the temperature to 101° or 102° Fahr. by a cold bath, and then administer an antipyretic dose of quinine, to prevent or delay the recurring rise of temperature.

But it will not do to temporize with small doses. We have a good illustration here of the value of eclecticism in medicine; our small doses have their proper place, but here if we would accomplish good instead of harm, the dose must amount to twenty or thirty grains within an hour or so. Loomis observes as follows: "The antipyretic power of quinine is established beyond

question. When quinine is employed as an antipyretic, however, it must be given in large doses; the administration of two grains every two hours, or four hours, will not act as an antipyretic; but thirty or forty grains must be administered within a period of two hours. If the stomach is irritable, and a large dose produces vomiting, ten grains may be given every half hour, until the desired quantity has been administered. Usually from four to six hours after the antipyretic dose has been given the temperature will begin to fall, and in about twelve hours it will reach its minimum; then it will remain stationary for from twelve to twenty-four hours. After the temperature has once been reduced by the quinine, its administration may be discontinued until the temperature shall again rise to 105° Fahr. As a rule the temperature rarely ranges as high as before the quinine was administered. This mode of administering quinine in antipyretic doses to fever patients, rarely produces any symptoms of cinchonism other than a transient deafness after the first dose."

We have never met a class of typhoids where the sedatives early used with baptisia, alternated with the markedly indicated antiseptic, or antizymotic, would not succeed in bringing the morning temperature down to 102° in a few days. With Mellins' food and such treatment, with good nursing, we have been satisfied without the use of quinine. But there are elements peculiar to epidemics which exert an important influence upon the treatment at different times. Our treatment might not afford good results, and we are glad to have had this experience from Dr. Watkins, as it may prove of value in the future. We should not have given the credence to the instruction of Professor Loomis, without Dr. Watkins' testimony, for Dr. Loomis is not supposed to be acquainted with our methods, and therefore not qualified to make the comparison. Dr. Watkins is.

Oil of Mullein in Enuresis.—While the subject of mullein oil is yet warm, it might be well enough to refer to its use as a remedy for enuresis. We have recently heard a report from it in an obstinate case of nocturnal enuresis, that has resisted the most strenuous preventive measures, *rhus aromatica*, *scutellaria*

santonine, belladonna, and numerous other agents, where the effect of the aforesaid remedy has been prompt and satisfactory.

It is not probable that it will prove a specific in every case, but it should be added to the list as an agent liable to do good work in time of need.

Dr. Cushing, of Lynn, Massachusetts, who has made this remedy something of a pet, made a proving of it a number of years ago, and found dribbling of the urine a prominent symptom. "Since that time," he writes, "I have treated many cases of enuresis, mostly nocturnal, some of which had resisted years of treatment, both by old school and new, and I do not know of one thus treated that has not been cured."

The dose will vary somewhat with the caprice of the prescriber. We would suggest a dilution of the oil in alcohol—one part of the oil to fifty or a hundred parts alcohol. Of this give five or ten drops at a dose, repeating four or five times daily.

Additional facts relative to this agent may be found on page 284 of last year's volume of this JOURNAL.

Some of the Effects of Cocaine.—The writer submitted to an inspection of the nasal cavities at the hands of Professor Cornwall a few days ago. In order to examine the parts thoroughly a four per cent solution of cocaine was liberally applied to both sides and the parts pretty thoroughly benumbed.

The sensation was rather pleasant at first. Congestion of the parts was removed, nasal respiration, long somewhat obstructed, became free, and though the posterior nares were rather uncomfortably numb, the general sensation was one of exhilaration. After the application the writer visited several business houses in "Frisco," in making some trifling purchases, walking very briskly and with more than ordinary vim.

The cocaine was applied about four o'clock P. M., and no unpleasant sensations were felt until about half past ten at night, after retiring, when the left nasal passage began to ache, and the pain soon extended to the entire left side of the head and face and became intense.

Added to this was an extreme amount of restlessness, keeping

the patient bobbing from side to side until four o'clock in the morning. About midnight nausea supervened and vomiting followed, and the soft palate failing to respond to the demands made upon it, the acid contents of a dissatisfied stomach were ejected through both mouth and nose, the nasal passages thus experiencing added discomfort.

The active symptoms passed off by morning, leaving a feeling of languor, nausea, headache, dizziness, and a general numbness pervading the whole system, but more marked about the region of the heart, where it at times amounted to an aching pain. On the third day these symptoms were still marked on active exercise, as brisk walking, and they have convinced ye humble servant that cocaine is not to be trifled with. Whether the solution was pocketed in the antrum and a considerable quantity absorbed therefrom, or whether the subject possesses an idiosyncrasy, is a matter of conjecture, but not so much of one as to prompt any further experiments to decide the question.

Bromide of Arsenic.—This remedy is said to be far superior to the other bromides in the treatment of epilepsy. The following formula, furnished by Professor Goss, in his "New Remedies," is very reliable. Dr. Morton informs the writer that the only success he has had in epilepsy, has been from the use of this remedy, as prepared after the following plan. All the cases treated by him with it were cured:—

Dissolve one dram of carbonate of potassium in half a pint of water, then add one dram of arsenious acid, and boil until the solution is completed. After cooling, add sufficient water to make a twenty-ounce mixture, and to this add two drams of bromide. (*bromine*)

This is less irritating to the stomach than Fowler's solution, and possesses all the virtues of that preparation, besides being especially valuable in epilepsy. Dose, one to three drops, in water, three or four times a day.

The "Pacific Record of Medicine and Surgery."—This is a monthly résumé of medical and pharmaceutical progress

lately inaugurated in San Francisco. Though avowedly "old school," the editor has the independence and manliness to be disgusted with the devilish *littleness* of some of the allopathic methods of this coast, and does not fear to express himself boldly. Hence we admire him, and would see his journal prosper. It is published at 405 and 407 Sansome Street, San Francisco, at \$2.00 per annum. Those of our subscribers who wish to read an old school journal, should investigate its merits. It is well conducted.

The New Method of Treating Pulmonary Consumption.—The medical journals are at present teeming with reports of Bergeon's method of treating consumption. The innovation has taken like wild-fire, for the two reasons that there are plenty of subjects, and no other method offers any hopes of cure.

The method consists in the injection of sulphuretted hydrogen gas into the rectum once or twice per day. It was demonstrated by Bernard in 1857 that toxic agents introduced into the rectum are absorbed by the veins of the portal system, and eliminated by the liver, if not volatile. Gaseous substances are carried to the lungs and exhaled without entering the arterial system. Hydrogen sulphide is a non-respirable gas, but it is found that its dilution with carbon dioxide renders it tolerable by the lungs, after passing through the portal circulation, and its exhalation through the pulmonary membrane produces a salutary influence even in so serious a condition as pulmonary phthisis.

Many favorable reports are furnished by those who have employed the plan in various Eastern hospitals. It is asserted that the hectic flush leaves the cheek of the sufferer, the cough becomes ameliorated, the temperature lowers, and even when vomicae are present, and the disease advanced, the patients improve in weight and strength. We believe no permanent cures have been reported in the United States, though not time enough has yet elapsed for any such confirmation.

The carbonic acid is passed through containers filled with a solution of sulphide of sodium, or some sulphurous mineral water, and conducted through a rectal tube into the intestine,

slowly, so as not to provoke colicky symptoms. Dr. B. H. Daggett, of Buffalo, has adopted the following plan: Employing a druggist to charge a soda-water bottle with carbonic dioxide, the bottle is then connected with a Wolffe bottle containing nearly a quart of water saturated with hydrogen sulphide, and the Wolffe bottle again connected with a rubber gas bag having a stop-cock. By pressing on the lever of the soda-water bottle, the carbonic gas is forced through the sulphurous water, carrying with it the sulphuretted hydrogen, when it is confined by turning the stop-cock, after the bag is distended. From this retainer it is carried by a rectal tube into the bowel when needed. It is believed that the carbonic acid is needed as a diluent to the sulphuretted hydrogen, that its action may be safe.

Parke, Davis & Co.—This firm has a contract for the advertising page facing first page of reading matter, but last month, through mistake of the printer, it was placed inside. It will be observed that it appears in proper order in this issue. Do not forget to look it over. The firm is reliable and enterprising.

MISCELLANEOUS PARAGRAPHS.

WE have used Parke, Davis & Co.'s "Normal Liquids" with complete satisfaction in a number of cases, recently. Uniformity of strength in medicines is an important desideratum.

THE Philadelphia *Medical Times* says that a prominent practitioner of that city lost a good patient, a spinster, the very pattern of propriety, by writing a prescription for "Fluid Ext. Rham. Cat." After reading the prescription, she said nothing could induce her to swallow such a remedy, and that the doctor ought to be ashamed of himself for ordering it. He now prescribes simple castor oil.—*New England Medical Monthly*.

THE season is approaching when doctors will begin to recreate. Camping, hunting, and fishing are favorite pastimes with many California physicians. Two of our Faculty, especially, are crack shots, and indefatigable hunters, and, we believe, there is one disciple of Izaak Walton among the number. The change in our lecture season, however, will interfere somewhat with protracted sojourns in pursuit of such sport.

OUR citizens are again edified by a sanguinous account of a marvelous surgical operation performed in New York, which account appears in one of the daily papers. In this operation "an incision was made to the right of the *center bone* of the abdomen, along the margin of the *vetus* muscle." Since reading this highly exciting article, diligent search has been made for that center bone and vetus muscle, but they seem to be absent in the Western abdomen.—*Weekly Medical Review*.

WE are in receipt of a supplement of the *Fostoria Review*, a paper published at Fostoria, Ohio, a new city, named after Charles Foster, former governor of the State. In order to encourage the location of manufacturing interests, free gas, from a gas-well already bored, is offered to all manufacturers who will locate there. If the paper is sent to tempt us to remove thither, we would respectfully decline, as we use but little gas in our manufactory. Brains, gentlemen of Fostoria, is our motive power. If you have any of this commodity to spare, you may be able to add a medical college to your other industries; but the quality must be first-class, or you must graduate on very short time, if you would make the venture a success. Some medical colleges have been run on gas, but such institutions are like bubbles or balloons; they are liable to collapse in a very brief time.

NO PHYSICIAN should recommend a food, as he would not a medicine, without knowing its composition, and the composition of most of the recent dietetic preparations, ending with Carnrick's has been announced. Carnrick's food contains a large percentage of the solid constituents of milk, the casein of which has been partially digested so as to resemble the casein of human milk in its behavior under the digestive ferment. The other ingredient is stated to be wheat flour subjected to prolonged baking, so that its starch is to a considerable extent converted into dextrine. This food has the advantage of easy preparation in the nursery, and easy digestion. Used alone it is sufficiently nutritious for the infant. It will probably supersede some of the older foods of the shops. Poor families who cannot afford to use it as the sole food, will, according to my observation, find it useful made into a thin gruel, and employed in diluting the cow's milk with which these infants are fed.

J. LEWIS SMITH, M. D.

BOOK NOTICES.

THE NEW MATERIA MEDICA AND THERAPEUTICS. Designed as a text-book for the student and a ready reference for the practitioner; a compend of materia medica, written with especial reference to the more direct or positive action of medicines, and the introduction of new ones. By I. J. M. Goss, M. D., Professor of the Science and Practice of Medicine in the Georgia College of Eclectic Medicine and Surgery, etc., etc.

Professor Goss has kindly sent us a copy of this work for review, and we can write of it in terms of commendation, for we know from past experience that his observations in this line are reliable and worthy of the consideration of every physician. We regard him as one of the most original and reliable authorities in therapeutics living. We observe with regret that his publisher, Geo. H. Field, M. D., has done him the injustice of allowing his work to go through the press very poorly proof-read, the spelling of common medical names being faulty in many instances. A work of such sterling value deserves the best of treatment at the hands of the publisher.

Throughout this work the evidence of long and careful experience with the therapeutic agents written upon is apparent, and much of the entire material is the result of personal research. The work is valuable because it contains much useful knowledge not obtainable elsewhere, and this should commend it to the practitioner even if he have other works on therapeutics.

Practical instructions for preparing many agents will be found among these pages, and this enhances the value of the work, for the instructions are plain and simple, so that anyone having an ordinary knowledge of medicine need not go amiss.

We regret that a clinical index has not been appended. This would have enhanced the value of the work very much and demonstrated more fully the mine of valuable knowledge contained within its pages.

We hope hereafter that eclectic authors on materia medica will not neglect this very essential desideratum to a complete treatise when preparing works on therapeutics. Dr. Goss' "New Medicines" contains such an index, but this little work is now out of print. The eclectic materia medica has never been half so effective as it might be made were its text-books thus supplied.

Professor Goss' work may be ordered of him from Marietta, Ga.